



Hurd aims to replace BBC TV licence fee

The Government hopes to introduce a comprehensive broadcasting Bill early in the next Parliament...

competition, the Government believes. The Bill is also likely to include a guaranteed right of access to the BBC...

other countries, but the Government's plans for the BBC would, if implemented, be likely to create the world's largest and most technically sophisticated subscription television system.

Inside



Overstretched, attacked from all sides, the police are at the sharp end of a rapidly changing society.

Portfolio Gold - The £16,000 weekly prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition...

TIMES BUSINESS

CBI backing - CBI leaders launched a pre-election business manifesto and broke with tradition by announcing for the first time their support for a Conservative victory at the next election.

TIMES SPORT

McEnroe wins - John McEnroe beats Miloslav Mecir 6-3, 1-6, 7-6, 5-7, 6-2 in the final of the European Community Championship in Antwerp.

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Law Report, Overseas, etc.

Royal Family remembers war dead



The Princess of Wales, Princess Anne and the Duchess of York view the ceremony yesterday (Photographs: Chris Harris)

Chinook pilot gives clue to cause of crash

The captain of the crashed Chinook helicopter has given accident investigators a detailed description of the last moments of his flight to disaster.

hit the water he was able to tell his co-pilot through the microphone connected to his headset that there was a major problem with the rear rotor.

Rooftop marksmen guard the Cenotaph

Controversy and a cordon of unprecedented security surrounded yesterday's remembrance ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall.



The Queen lays a floral tribute at the Cenotaph

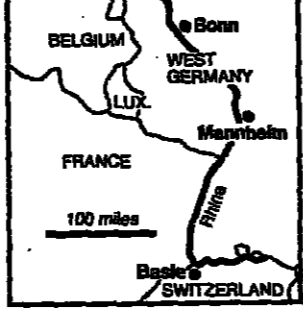
1,000 officers policed a rival anti-fascist march in a successful effort to keep the two sides apart.

Chancellor rules out poll 'dash'

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday ruled out a snap general election aimed at capitalizing on the Government's public spending bonanza...

Pollution alert in North Sea

Ships which monitor North Sea pollution and radioactivity levels for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have been alerted to track a flood of mercury due to be discharged from the Rhine later this week.



Safety flaws - 30 tons of mercury and other chemicals used in the manufacture of pesticides drifted down the river from Basle in Switzerland, through Germany, and to the Netherlands at the weekend.

Threat by Patten on rent debt

Local authority rent arrears in England have reached a new record with above £200 million, with some councils failing to collect money from up to a quarter of their council tenants.

'Shultz to resign' over Iran talks

The revelations of US contacts with Iran, involving the supply of military spare parts in an attempt to free the US hostages in Lebanon, has caused a crisis within the Reagan Administration...

Labour borough ends Times ban

The controlling Labour group in the London Borough of Ealing decided last night to comply with a High Court order to end its ban on displaying News International newspapers in its libraries.

More of a washout than a beanfeast

Baked beans, one of the nation's most enduringly popular convenience foods and one of the few to be commended by nutritionists as a valuable source of fibre, are expected to become scarce and expensive during the next few months.

Canadian beans has soared from \$27 to around \$70, which is expected to add at least 6p to the retail price of a 15 oz can now costing between 15p and 21p.

such international socialism since they were first doused in tomato sauce and canned as dry white haricots, known as navy beans ever since they were used to feed the United States Navy.

with bean-breeders in far-flung corners of the world, the scientists have so far failed to come up with an acceptable substitute.

Race is on to sign Ian Botham

Worcestershire and Warwickshire are making the early running in the chase to sign Ian Botham, who said yesterday from Australia, where he is touring with England, that he will leave Somerset as a result of the club's members backing the dismissal of Viv Richards and Joel Garner.

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John de Liso

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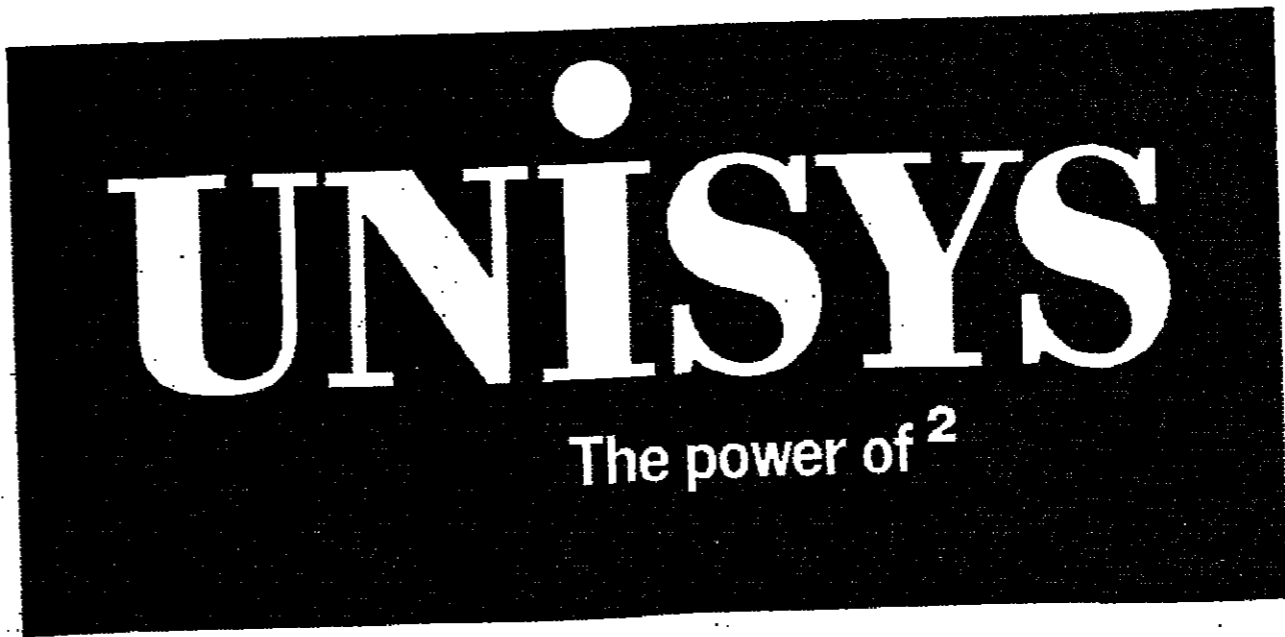
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Police control: who's in charge?



THE THIN BLUE LINE

"Political" strikes and riots have created bitter divisions between the police and local authorities, while the Home Secretary's role is also under attack.

In the second of a five-part series we describe how the power is allocated and talk to the men who wield it

Part 2: Divisions of duty

The history of the British police is peppered with minor skirmishes between chief constables and politicians but in the past five years confrontation has reached a peak. Now the question of who controls the police will be a major issue at the next general election.

Liverpool councillors have quarrelled incessantly with their chief constable, while in Manchester plans to mount armed patrols in the city met with an outcry. During the miners' strike, left-wing councillors in South Yorkshire tried to stop the chief constable spending money on policing the dispute. The refusal of some police authorities to countenance plastic bullets has led the Home Office to create a central store. In London a number of local councils have banned the police from entering schools on educational visits.

Urban politicians want greater influence in police activity. Shire politicians are worried about the increase in power at the centre. Home Office ministers warn that Labour plans for community involvement will mean that opponents of the police will be placed in power over them. After 20 years the tripartite arrangement for sharing control of the police between chief constables, police authorities and ministers is under attack.

Enshrined in the 1964 Police Act, the aim of the arrangement was to create checks and balances, allowing play for national or local interests without unnecessary conflict. The Home Secretary has extremely wide powers to influence the nature of policing. His remit covers the pay and regulations of the police, the monitoring of the service through a network of inspectors of constabulary, approval of candidates for chief constable and the removal of incumbents when necessary.

Perhaps the most important practical function is the payment of a central grant normally representing half of each force's annual budget. At the same time the Home Secretary is the police authority for the Metropolitan Police, the country's largest force. Budget estimates for 1986-7 show that the central government contribution to policing in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland will top £2.8 billion.

At a local level, policing devolves to individual chief constables and police authorities made up of local coun-

cillors (two thirds) and local JPs (one third). Under the Act the authorities are responsible for securing "the maintenance of an adequate and efficient police force" which means they decide the choice of a chief constable, subject to the approval of the Home Secretary, and they can also discipline him or his senior officers. They shape his budget and the general logistics of his force but he controls operational matters.

The 1962 Royal Commission on the police also suggested that the authorities had responsibility for fostering good police and public relations plus the task of guiding or advising the chief constable on local problems. He has the basic duty under the 1964 act of conducting the "direction and control" of his force.

According to a judgment in 1968, "no minister can tell him he must or must not keep observation on this place or that, he must or must not prosecute this man or that - nor can any police authority tell him so. The responsibility is on him. He is answerable to the law and the law alone."

But it is argued by chief constables that they are accountable in other ways - through the courts, or to police authorities and the Home Office. The 1964 act says that a chief constable may have to submit a report to his authority on policing matters they might raise.

The chief constable can refuse if he considers the information would not be in the public interest or comes outside the authority's remit. If the two then disagree the Home Secretary arbitrates.

The Home Secretary, too, can demand reports on policing matters - for example, the call for a report from the Essex chief constable into the investigation on the Jeremy Bamber case.

Chief constables themselves have been less than happy in the past about the workings of the tripartite arrangement. In the 1970s the decision to create a Police Complaints Board was seen as a threat to the chief officer's autonomy and a step towards centralism.

But the main source of friction in recent years has been between police authorities, largely in the urban forces, and their chief constables. Despite the abolition of the large metropolitan authorities and their replacement by joint boards of local councilors and JPs, the trouble may not stop.

Stewart Trender



Distanced: Douglas Hurd, anxious to preserve police independence

Capturing public support

Crude crime statistics and clear-up rates are no measure of the police's true value, says Sir Kenneth Newman, head of Britain's largest force

Sir Kenneth Newman does not talk like a policeman. His vocabulary is suave, managerial and organizational; he gives the impression that he considers himself not so much a crime fighter as a chief executive, whose field of operation happens to be police work rather than groceries or coal.

Aged 60, and approaching the end of his career, he has been the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police for four years, during which time he has completely reorganized the force geographically, shortened its command structures and increased its efficiency and scientific sophistication.

He has not made the progress he hoped for, however, in capturing public support for the police; relations between police and blacks remain intractably tense; organized crime syndicates are spreading their tentacles; and inner-city rioting is a constant possibility. Despite the Chancellor's autumn statement last week that the total increased provision for the police during the next three years will be £1.26 billion, Sir Kenneth has a force which he believes is severely undermanned.

The public is interested in only one thing: are the police "winning the battle against crime". On that criterion the figures suggest not. London's reported crime continues to rise; the police's clear-up rates remain abysmal. But Sir Kenneth does not accept the crude statistical test for the police's success or failure.

"It makes more sense to be judged on that range of crime on which the police could be expected to make an impact - murder, violent wounding and assaults, kidnappings, armed robberies. If you look at those, we're not doing too badly. But for the great majority of crime it is unreasonable to expect the police by themselves to make much of an impact."

"If people looked at it rationally, the volume of reported crime would be regarded more sensibly as an indicator of the health of society generally, and of the performance of agencies other than the police, like parents and schools."

When he took over as Commis-

sioner, he put "relations between the police and the public" as the most important issue facing the Met. The inability of the police to prevent and detect crime on their own is a cornerstone of his philosophy.

He is proud of the 5,000-plus neighbourhood watch schemes that have been set up since he became Commissioner and of the growth of liaison and consultation with local communities. But, according to polls which Scotland Yard itself has commissioned, public satisfaction with the police remains at a stubborn 75 per cent or so, which suggests that up to a million adult Londoners have their reservations. Some of the successes which he claims have their negative aspects as well.

Neighbourhood watch schemes still tend to congregate in middle-class areas among people already

well disposed towards the police, though there have been a few breakthroughs into the less promising territory of council estates and high-rise blocks.

Nor does the neighbourhood watch necessarily reduce crime. Sir Kenneth admits that there is a strong displacement effect. "There is evidence of several kinds of displacement - spatial, from one area to another; temporal, from one time of day to another; and tactical, moving from one crime to another, burglary to street robbery for instance," he explains.

He has far less cause for optimism about relations between police and

blacks. All Metropolitan policemen are now taught about ethnic cultures and how to deal with blacks and Asians in a way least likely to cause misunderstanding or offence. But mutual suspicion is the norm, and attempts to recruit more black policemen have had only limited success.

"Over the last 20 years," Sir Kenneth says, "there has been very tendentious treatment of policing matters in some of the ethnic newspapers, which has not projected a fair picture of the police. They're entitled to point to police abuse, but they go beyond that, with a stream of anti-police material. It hasn't done very much to improve relations."

Inner-city tension has also resulted in criticisms that the Metropolitan Police in effect accept the existence of no-go areas, especially in Brixton. Sir Kenneth accepts that a different "style" of policing may be necessary in some areas where the police's duty to enforce the letter of the law might conflict with their duty to preserve the peace.

The conversation, whatever area of policing is under discussion, keeps returning to inadequate manpower and resources. Sir Kenneth has a persuasive line in relevant statistical comparisons. He points out that crime-related activities account for only 25 per cent of the police's time, the rest being taken up by other demands on the force like traffic management, protecting embassies, monitoring demonstrations and dealing with paperwork.

His priorities are to put more policemen on the streets and to increase the number of officers investigating organized crime, especially with a drugs connection, which he sees as his biggest long-term problem. "There are hundreds of millions of pounds washing around. Eventually all that money is going to have to be laundered. That has the most horrendous implications for the stability, peace and security of society."

However much skilful juggling of resources Sir Kenneth is able to do, "something has to go. It has meant hard choices, but they haven't been

6 If people looked at it rationally, the volume of reported crime would be regarded more sensibly as an indicator of the health of society generally

The low profile policy

The Home Secretary is responsible to the Commons for the police. Should he be free to take a direct hand in tactics? Douglas Hurd thinks not

The principle was as old as the hills. Mutual aid would not require his approval. He would be notified.

The same sort of deliberate, political powerlessness applies to the manual that was produced by ACPO on police tactics for use on occasions such as the miners' strike or other major public disorder. It has never been published in full. ACPO takes the view that to do so would help those against whom the tactics might be used.

Hurd knows what is in it, but asked if he would have to approve it, he replies: "No. Oh, no."

The ACPO then could presumably, within the manual, introduce all sorts of measures without the Home Secretary's approval? Hurd says: "This is operational independence. They are under the law. There is no exemption from the law: the doctrine of the use of reasonable force, to take one example. They are entitled to use only the same amount of reasonable force as any other citizen."

"Supposing you have a riot of the

same ferocity as in Tottenham a year ago. Supposing this time that police decided to use their plastic baton rounds to protect their men. I think that is part of the operational independence of the police and they should be able to do that. It's a decision which has to be taken very quickly. To give the Home Secretary the power of veto might mean the decision couldn't be taken in a timely way."

One of the safeguards against overwhelming police power is the number of different forces in the country. Hurd is in favour of that and against a national force. The problem, however, is that the police these days are stretched in so many different directions, having so many different roles: the armed policeman in a siege one day may be helping an old lady over the road the next.

Some police see a case for a separate force to handle disorder and terrorism. Mr Hurd does not. "The idea of caged tigers to be unleashed upon the crowd is wrong and contrary to the tradition of British policing," he says.

Yet there is a gap between police and public in some places and Mr Hurd knows it. The strategy to deal with it includes consultative groups, recruiting of ethnic minorities, and neighbourhood watch schemes.

The long stop for relationships potentially fraught with difficulty is the Police Complaints Authority. It is still bedding down, Hurd says, but its independent supervision of the handling of complaints is proving its worth.

When there is public concern about a particular policing issue that the inspectorate cannot sort out, Whitehall's way is to set up a working group. One has been established, for example, over the use of firearms. All aspects, including procedures and training, are to be considered. The report is nearing completion and Hurd has promised to make its conclusions known to the House.

Peter Evans



Organized: Sir Kenneth Newman, worried by the manpower shortage

made arbitrarily. We go out and sample market preferences." That public preference is clearly for more bobbies on the beat.

Sir Kenneth's early years at the Yard were bedevilled by a suspicious force's resistance to his methods and philosophy. He was accused of being too much the theoretician, too absorbed with planning at the expense of action, in essence, too "soft". Sir Kenneth is irritated when people see organization and action as contradictory aims.

"I think gradually they're begin-

ning to see the benefits of reorganization. There's less paperwork, less bureaucracy. I would not, however, pretend that the constable on the street fully understands the logic of what I'm doing."

Marcel Berlins

TOMORROW
Law school: training the bobby for the beat

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FASHION by Suzy Menkes

King of the supple suit

close up

NINO CERRUTI

Kathleen Turner, Hollywood's new queen of curves,

is among the fans of Nino Cerruti (below), whose restrained style and classic cut have gained him a crown



The suit is the fashion statement which opens the 20th century, says Nino Cerruti: "It represents our century of industry..."

est Queen of the Curves, who smouldered at his Paris show in a sober grey striped suit and says that she likes the "restraint" of his designs.



The ultimate luxado: grey and black check dinner jacket, plain trousers £815, pieat-front dinner shirt, silvered tie and cummerbund. All from Cerruti, 76 New Bond Street, W1



New generation tailoring: woven stripe suit £495, primrose and grey check shirt £65, cashmere sweater and toning tie. All from Cerruti. Photographs by CHRIS DAWES

ber collegiate ties or Argyl checked socks. "There are new volumes, new materials, new techniques and new ideas," he says.

an invention of the 1930s which he describes as another fashion symbol of the century, along with the jogging suit.

whacky: "There has been such an orgy of fashion and too much of it has never gone further than the runway on which it was presented.

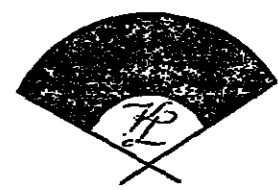
Cumbrian slate floors and maple wood fittings rounded off in an leather.

tions. The prices (about £500 for a suit and £300 for a jacket) point up, he says, the difference between the expensive ("a high price without value behind it") and the costly ("that gives real value").

PEOPLE Back to nature

I hear that photographer John Swannell, whose cult book of nudes in nature is launched by Quartet on Thursday, has some more surprises up his record sleeve.

Fandango



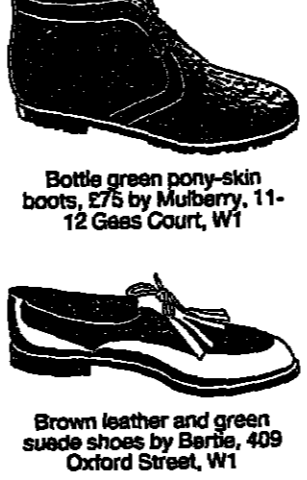
Karl Lagerfeld is expecting all his greatest fans tomorrow when he holds open shop in Bond Street from 11.30am with Anna Piagi to celebrate the publication of their joint chef d'oeuvre.

Money talks

What was behind the betrothal pictures of the sleek Italian tycoon Carlo De Benedetti sitting with a shy Yves Saint Laurent against the panther fur cushions in Yves's Paris apartment?

Sole sisters under the skin

Rugged winter shoes are taking a walk on the wild side this season (Rebecca Tyrrel writes). The newest women's shoes are made from pony-skin, dyed in vivid autumn greens and russets and patterned with animal prints, leopard spots or zebra stripes.



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UNITED FRONT

When European Community foreign ministers agreed their almost-united stance against Syria yesterday, they were doing no more than had been expected of them at their first meeting nearly two weeks ago.

Their dilatoriness, however, is no reason for not applauding the strength of their statement. Its absolute rejection of terrorism and its sponsors provides the sort of support the British Government has long requested for its own uncompromising attitude.

The failure of Greece to append its signature is regrettable, but was predicted and indeed predictable. It should be regarded not so much as a loss for the Community as for Greece itself, which cannot be considered a full member of the European Community until it has joined a cause which is so clearly in the interests of all Europe.

In common with most committee documents, the EEC condemnation of Syria has its limitations. As a statement of principle and intention, it is welcome. As a defined programme of action, it is less so. All manner of loopholes remain through which France's deals to free her hostages in Lebanon, arms sales covered by existing contracts, and dubious but un-

obtrusive diplomatic conduct will continue to pass unchecked. The statements themselves inevitably have a plati-tudinous ring. Refusal to make them would, however, have indicated such an infirmity of purpose as positively to invite terrorist assaults. The value of such statements is always likely to be more moral than practical. In this respect the EEC's reiteration of its moral priorities has come not a moment too soon.

Recent, though as yet un-confirmed, reports about behind-the-scenes dealing between France and Syria and between the United States and Iran have called into question the determination of both countries to stand up to terrorists and their sponsors. France, all too ready to call an emergency meeting of European ministers when Paris was subjected to random bomb attacks, was less than enthusiastic about endorsing Britain's condemnation of Syria even after Syrian involvement in the Hindawi case had been so clearly shown in a London court.

The revelations about clandestine US overtures to Iran, a country - or more particularly, a regime - with which it had pledged to have no dealings because of its involvement in terrorism, similarly cast doubt on American steadfastness. Had nerve failed the country which had sought to discourage terrorism by bombing Libya?

In each case, the impression was created that national economic and diplomatic interests had been placed above concerted international action against terrorism - the only sort of action which stands any chance of success. So long as the European Community was unable even to articulate joint opposition to terrorism, there was a risk that the British Government would not only lose out economically and diplomatically to its partners and allies, but suffer isolation for its stand against terrorism as well.

In that event legitimate questions could have been raised about the wisdom of occupying the high moral ground. Might there not come a time, it could have been asked, when our own national interests would require a modification of our position; when the principle of having no truck with terrorism would have to be sacrificed so as not to jeopardize Britain's influence or trading position abroad; when only the careless terrorist caught red-handed need be exhibited and the others quietly expelled or exchanged for hostages?

Fortunately, that time has not arrived and, if civilised nations maintain some sort of united front, never will arrive. The benefits of opposing terrorism still outweigh the risks which attach to that opposition. Yesterday's EEC statement could not have been more opportune.

A GULF OF MISUNDERSTANDING

The crisis over the taking of Western hostages in Lebanon is nothing to that surrounding their release. As governments jostle to influence Iran they are finding, not for the first time, that the reverse is now more likely to be true. It is the government of the Ayatollah Khomeini which is once more calling the shots, with Saudi Arabia's best known Minister apparently one of the casualties and even Washington's Secretary of State looking like a dangerously near miss. It is a very tangled web that they have woven.

That the Iranian war effort in the Gulf has leaned heavily on covert shipments of arms has long been accepted as fact. That some of these have originated in Israel is no surprise, although the size and significance of Jerusalem's contribution has long remained a matter for debate. But the mere suggestion that the United States might also have been involved raises issues of a very different order.

The latest embarrassing revelations in Washington allege that the Reagan Administration (or some of those within it) started negotiating over the supply of military equipment 18 months ago. Three planeloads financed by the United States are said to have flown to Iran last year, enabling the subsequent release of the Rev Benjamin Weir. Early last summer, it would seem, three more shiploads of arms took a similar route via Eilat to secure the freedom of the Rev Lawrence Jenko in July and Dr David Jacobson last week. No-one could begrudge any of these men his return to his

family and friends Nor would one wish to jeopardise the release of other individuals in the hands of fanatics in Lebanon. But the circumstances in which they have been freed are highly questionable and, in the absence of denials from the White House, one must assume that these reports are not unfounded. The same applies to the claim that the Saudi Arabian oil minister, Sheikh Yamani, lost his job recently by opposing his government's plan to help Iran by raising the price of crude oil.

There are, of course, sound arguments in favour of strengthening Tehran's contacts with the West. Thoughts in Tehran are already turning to the future of a post-Khomeini nation. The geopolitical significance of the country cannot be ignored and Western governments would be failing in their duty if they did not assess their policies in that light. But if, however, the United States and Saudi Arabia (or for that matter anyone else) are handing over the reward without any guarantee of future conduct, then they are losing all sight of their proper priorities. It is for the Iranians to secure the release of all or most of the hostages in Lebanon, to offer guarantees of peaceful policies in the Gulf and to demonstrate more respect for human rights - and then to hope for the help they badly need in building the future of their country.

The arguments over supplying arms to Tehran are not only moral ones. There is an equally strong political case for not helping either side in the Gulf War. Iranian enthusiasm for its so-called "final offensive" has lately cooled -

to nobody's great surprise. There have been "final offensives" before which at best have fizzled out in noman's land. Iran has plenty of fanatical manpower, (or rather boy-power), but has for some years lacked the arms and professional expertise to mount a sustained invasion of Iraq.

Might they break through the Iraqi lines for long enough to shatter Arab morale and even overthrow Saddam Hussein? That would achieve what is probably Khomeini's most important single objective and might just bring peace - of a kind. Saddam remains a strong man and there is no convincing evidence that he might fall. But the theory is there and one must question whether any power should risk tempting Khomeini to test it. An outcome with the Iranians in charge of Mesopotamia should not be lightly risked.

There are increasing signs that the Gulf War will end not with a bang but a whimper, both armies settling for a no-score draw. There might be no peace but equally there would be no war to speak of - just the sporadic cross-border skirmishing which might continue until some development off-stage, like the death of Khomeini, allowed peace negotiations to begin. That may be a slow unsatisfactory business, but it would be greatly preferable to the victory of one side over the other - particularly if the one side happened to be revolutionary Iran. To supply Tehran with arms while the situation remains in this uncertain light would seem, to use President Reagan's own word, to be "flakey."

TAKING AIDS SERIOUSLY

Today sees the first meeting of Lord Whitelaw's Cabinet committee to consider the Government's response to the growing anxiety in this country about the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or AIDS. It will include the Home Secretary, the Foreign Secretary, the Secretaries of State for Education, Defence, Social Services, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and Mr John Biffen. If eminance alone were a guarantee of effective action, the committee could be safely left to get on with it.

There are, however, unsettling signs that the committee will fall victim to that familiar Whitehall paralysis which ensures that nothing controversial will be done until it is too late to be effective. One sign of that is the pronounced emphasis that the Government is placing on the need to spend more money on public health education about AIDS. More money can certainly be used productively in informing people about the risks and dangers of AIDS. But health education cannot be made to bear the whole

burden of the Government's programme to combat AIDS. Newspapers and television, after all, carry a great deal of such information. And if the burden of the Government's message is to encourage "safe sex" (i.e. sex with condoms, which is safer rather than safe), then it may actually encourage the sexual promiscuity which is a major means of AIDS transmission and which the fear of AIDS has recently seemed to restrain.

Ministers have over-emphasised health education spending because they are nervous of proposals to halt the spread of AIDS directly - notably compulsory AIDS screening in Britain and compulsory tests for visitors from other countries. Some of their reasons for this nervousness are commonsensical enough. Compulsory screening would be both costly and impossible to enforce if significant sections of the populace were to evade it (as some high-risk groups such as militant gays, fearing a general social discrimination, would undoubtedly seek to do in present circumstances).

Other objections, such as the diplomatic trouble that would be caused by testing foreign visitors, are short-term and trivial in relation to the threat of a major AIDS epidemic. It can be confidently forecast that, if AIDS ever does reach epidemic proportions, public opinion will very quickly force Whitehall to abandon these reservations.

To ensure that matters never reach that disastrous stage, however, Lord Whitelaw's committee should launch a major programme of voluntary AIDS screening and consider ways in which participation in it can be encouraged.

From voluntary recruitment in the First World War to the mass screening for tuberculosis and other chest diseases since 1945, British governments have considerable experience of mobilising popular consent and participation. A campaign of voluntary screening may not be enough to tackle AIDS, but anything less will certainly be inadequate.

Financial damage to science

From Dr J.H. Mulvey and Dr N.A. Jelly

Sir, The Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC) is £20million short because of the drop in sterling exchange rates and consequent increase in sterling value of the contributions which must - by treaty - be paid to international research organisations.

This unforeseeable loss to an already declining budget is having disastrous effects, with ever more grant applications for outstanding research in all fields of science being refused and scientists facing termination of their research in mid-flow. Understandably, the cry goes up once again, "withdraw from CERN", the international research centre for high-energy physics near Geneva, which is the recipient of the biggest of the international subscriptions.

But this would be a stupidity: CERN is outstandingly long ago, taken steps to protect their domestic science from the effects of sharp swings in the exchange rates. They see us, not for the first time, suffering self-inflicted damage to our whole research programme and seeking to export the problem to the international organisations they strongly support.

The formula determining our contribution to CERN takes exchange-rate changes into account retrospectively and will in time bring an automatic reduction in our contribution. All the other member States have, long ago, taken steps to protect their domestic science from the effects of sharp swings in the exchange rates. They see us, not for the first time, suffering self-inflicted damage to our whole research programme and seeking to export the problem to the international organisations they strongly support.

Why must the Treasury be permitted to set conditions which make it impossible for the SERC to carry through its research plans without waste, confusion and the destruction of the hopes of scientists? If they fail to get a full correction for the immediate effects of exchange-rate changes, are the members of the SERC prepared to resign rather than com-

Local blemishes

From Mr Vernon Bogdanor

Sir, In her perceptive article (November 3), Anne Sofer asks, "Who will defend the town hall?" and comes to the conclusion, "hardly anyone". She finds a "creeping rottenness at the core of local government" but surely puts too much weight upon factors such as political patronage and intimidation, important as these are.

The trouble is that the British debate on local government has for too long been confined to wellworn questions of structure and function, so that the real issue - whether local authorities are present constituted as equipped to be a focus for local participation and accountability - has been ignored.

It is time that questions such as

SDP philosophy

From Dr Stephen Mennell

Sir, As one of the original 100 signatories of the Limehouse Declaration I agree substantially with Danny Finkelstein's account (feature, November 5), of how the "philosophy" of the SDP has evolved since then. But I would call the result an incoherent mish-mash: certainly to describe it as a move to the right is too simple, but also too dignified.

Since the term "social democratic" has (or had until 1981) an established meaning, linked historically in most of Europe to "democratic socialism", perhaps the SDP should now change its name, lest it be charged with sailing under false colours.

Or perhaps not. In terms of historic meaning we now have a Conservative Party which is not conservative, a Liberal Party which is not liberal, and an SDP which is not social democratic. Only the Labour Party remains true to its name, and that is one of its gravest weaknesses.

Yours faithfully, STEPHEN MENNELL, 7 Wheatsheaf Way, Aiphington, Exeter, Devon.

The right to buy

From Mr Albert T. Smith

Sir, Now that the House of Lords has voted twice to exempt council homes specially adapted for old (and disabled) people from the right-to-buy provisions enshrined in clauses of the appropriate housing Act, Mr John Patten, Minister of State for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, is reported (November 6) as assuring the House of Commons that the Government would nevertheless not stand by and watch elderly tenants cheated of their right to buy through the bureaucratic arrogance of unco-operative local councils.

As an afflicted tenant of such a local council, may I ask why were the discriminatory clauses in the right-to-buy legislation agreed to in the first place? Why, for all the reported talk of helping the disabled and elderly, were discriminatory measures invoked, leaving them with unequal rights from other tenants, yet paying the same amount of rent, deemed fair at the outset?

Trusting that the new and fair legislation, correcting this anom-

Financial damage to science

with scientific mayhem?

Yours faithfully, J.H. MULVEY, N.A. JELLEY, University of Oxford, Department of Nuclear Physics, Keble Road, Oxford.

From Professor Alan H. Cowley
Sir, As a scientist who left Britain for an American university some twenty years ago, may I, through your columns, express my dismay at the inadequate level of support being given to basic research in chemistry at universities in the United Kingdom at the present time.

I have recently spent three weeks in the United Kingdom as a Royal Society of Chemistry Centenary Lecturer. I was thus able to visit several universities and it was abundantly evident that my British colleagues are having the greatest difficulty in working at the frontiers of the subject. This was true even for those chemistry departments rated highly in the recent University Grants Committee's grading exercise.

The Science and Engineering Research Council is unable to support a high proportion of alpha-quality research in chemistry, and "state-of-the-art" research equipment is lacking in departments until recently regarded as world leaders. To an expatriate it seems a recipe for economic disaster for such a small proportion (less than 5 per cent) of the SERC budget to be spent on grants for fundamental research in chemistry at the universities. These institutions train people who can sustain the success of the chemical industry and its massive contribution to the United Kingdom trade balance.

While in one sense it would be a pleasure to welcome more British chemists to the United States, as a consequence of present science policy towards basic research, I cannot view this situation as being in the best interests of the United Kingdom. Yours sincerely, ALAN H. COWLEY, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712-1167, USA.

The method of election of local councillors, the role of direct participation at local level, and the internal organisation of local authorities were brought into the discussion. For, without consideration of these wider constitutional issues, it is doubtful whether we will be able to fashion a system of local government able to confront the complex social problems of the modern world.

The parlous state of local government in Britain today, and the understandable eagerness of ministers to by-pass local authorities in areas such as educational policy show just how much we have lost by our unwillingness, as a nation, to take constitutional issues seriously. Yours faithfully, VERNON BOGDANOR, Brasnose College, Oxford.

aly as promised, will also give the elderly and disabled the right to buy at April, 1981, valuations, as well as reimbursement for any outstanding legal charges presently having to be met through obvious rash decisions of the powers that be who are now seeking to correct their ways, Yours sincerely, ALBERT T. SMITH (Chairman, Hallam branch, Muscular Dystrophy Group), 251 Topley Brook Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, November 6.

BBC under fire

From Mr Alan Robertson

Sir, It is a matter of great regret that the issue of the television reporting of the Libyan affair immediately became a point-of-order exercise for all political parties. It is manifestly true that the hallmark of a democracy is the freedom of the media to report to the populace, unfiltered by political interference, and that any threat to that freedom should be immediately and energetically resisted.

The underlying and probably more important problem, which is much less easy to evaluate, is the level of objectivity employed in the pursuit of truth, and methods used to achieve it.

Some weeks ago (August 27) Celia Brayfield reported in *The Times* on the proceedings of the Edinburgh International Television Festival. This was a forthright and perceptive article, which raised a number of fundamental points of great importance which, to the best of my recollection, has drawn no response.

Ms Brayfield referred to the "pervasive smugness" of the festival and concluded that "Television is an enclosed order, a narcissistic, obsessive profession which avoids contact with the rest of society."

Enthusiasm, coupled with a conviction of the absolute rightness of one's own viewpoint, can create an atmosphere in which truth is likely to be the first victim and, though it may be deemed that Ms Brayfield's is a harsh judgement, it and other points in her article urgently require further discussion. Yours faithfully, ALAN ROBERTSON, Woodlands, Tenyson's Lane, Haslemere, Surrey.

Finding a road to recovery

From Mrs C. A. Atkinson

Sir, Now that the final section of the M25 has been opened we have an orbital motorway insufficient to cope with all the extra traffic it attracts - traffic which, in many cases, is coming from London to use the motorway for one junction and then turn inward again.

Starved of decent internal road links south London is an area of endless housing and little industry. That industry is being constantly drawn to new sites on the perimeter of the green belt with demands for attendant housing.

Thus the inner city is deprived of employment, which is, instead, offered to areas in the South-east which, with respect, have less need of new jobs. Demand for housing sites leaves handovers as the main beneficiaries.

Bletchingley trestlers on the edge of the green belt in beautiful countryside and the M25 has at least removed much heavy traffic from the village centre. However, we who use the motorway know there are few times in the day when the journey is not going to involve a traffic jam - either east or west.

In order to preserve our green belt and at the same time, regenerate inner London surely there should be a further orbital road to encourage business back into the city. Even if a new road is impossible, improvements to existing roads to form a further inner orbital link could be made.

City of London finance might be more readily forthcoming, as sites for light industry in inner London became more attractive. I remain, yours faithfully, CAROLINE ALEXANDER ATKINSON, Stables Cottage, Little Common Lane, Bletchingley, Surrey, November 8.

Cutting response

From Mr Christopher D'Avie

Sir, British Rail's reason for razing a stand of beautiful mature trees, next to the Stoke d'Abernon recreation ground, as reported in *The Times* (November 6), is that leaves on the adjoining line cause wheel spin and overheating. BR say they need to cut back to within 30 to 40 feet of the line.

Some of the trees felled were at least 70 feet away. This was plainly and literally overkill by BR, when removal of a few trees close to the line and removal of selected branches of others would certainly have sufficed.

BR made no attempt to consult those who arguably are most affected - the Stoke d'Abernon Cricket Club, whose members have played on this ground, beautifully bordered by these trees, for more than 110 years.

Unless BR is to strike a much better balance between what it calls the interests of its customers and the interests of the environment than it has shown on this occasion, there is real cause for concern for all trees on BR property. This was a case of indiscriminate destruction, without any concern for those who enjoy the neighbouring land. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER DAVIE, 21 Woodend Park, Stoke Road, Cobham, Surrey, November 7.

Racing handicaps

From Mr J. L. Hislop

Sir, Among the many letters and articles on the defeat of Dancing Brave in the Breeders' Cup at Santa Anita, one important and disturbing aspect has been overlooked almost completely. This is that in the state of California certain medications, notably Lasix and Butazolidin, are permitted, though these substances are banned by all the chief racing authorities in Europe, where they are classed as dope.

This was condemned in a leading article in *The Blood Horse*, the most respected magazine on racing and breeding in the USA, on the grounds that Lasix is a stimulant as well as preventative for breaking blood vessels, while Butazolidin alleviates pain and disguises unsoundness.

Thus a false result can be obtained and such races are valueless as a true test, quite apart from the effects of travel, climate, the time of year and racing on courses which, by European standards, are glorified dog tracks.

Yours faithfully, JOHN HISLOP, Regal Lodge, Exning, or Newmarket, Suffolk, November 6.

Outlook uncertain

From Miss Susan J. N. Hill

Sir, Glancing through my two French phrasebooks recently, I noticed that neither has a section relating to "Weather". In fact, there seems to be a strange reluctance altogether to mention the phenomenon - one book contains a mere three references to the subject, the other cannot muster any.

Does this not seem odd, in publications aimed at the British public? Or is it a deliberate ploy to ensure that those of us who are less than linguistically expert are, when abroad, deprived of our favourite pastime? Yours faithfully, SUSAN HILL, 18 Grendon Close, Tile Hill Village, Coventry, West Midlands, November 3.

ON THIS DAY

NOVEMBER 11 1938

In this issue case the words complained of had been written by "Our Music Critic", a title which covered not only H. C. Colles, but also his assistant, Frank Howes, who wrote them.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE KING'S BENCH DIVISION LABEL ACTION AGAINST "THE TIMES"; JURY STOP THE CASE REAVELY v. COLLES AND ANOTHER

Before Mr. Justice Stephenson and a Special Jury

The jury stopped this libel action which was brought by Captain Robert Reavely, a professional vocalist and actor, of Bicknell Mansions, W., against The Times Publishing Company Limited, in respect of words contained in an article in *The Times* of February 11, 1938. The action, it was stated, had also been brought against Mr. Henry Cope Colles, because the plaintiff had thought at first that Mr. Colles was the writer of the article.

The article was headed "Ellijah" as a "pageant". The plaintiff complained of the following words: "For instance, the conflict between Ellijah and Ahab, which is felt as a clash between good and evil in the nineteenth century, is amplified by the physical appearance of a King who can only make gestures of important significance... both Miss... and Mr. Robert Reavely were unsteady in their declamation."

The plaintiff, who took the part of King Ahab, said that by these words the audience of his performance were made to think that he was a man whose physical appearance rendered him wholly unfit to take the part, whose lack of ability as an actor was such that he could only make impotent gestures, whose declamation was unsteady, and who was wholly unfit to be engaged to take such or any similar part.

The defence did not admit that the performance was produced as a pageant or spectacular performance, with scenery, costumes, and acting, and not as an oratorio.

Mr. F. H. Lawton appeared for the plaintiff: Sir William Jowitt, K.C., Mr. Valentine Holmes and Mr. John Senter for the defendants.

ROLE OF KING AHAB

Mr. Lawton, in opening the case, said that in February last there had been produced at the Albert Hall Mendelssohn's oratorio *Ellijah*, in which Captain Reavely had a small part - that of King Ahab. The plaintiff did not come before them as a man who would have done Caruso out of a job if he had been in that singer's time. The only line he had to sing was "Art thou Ellijah? Art thou he that troubleth Israel?"

On February 11, *The Times* published the article in question, which began:

To lurcher a masterpiece to make a spectacle is a proceeding that can be justified on no artistic principle...

Then followed the words of which the plaintiff complained...

Captain Reavely, giving evidence, said that from a spectacular point of view the part of Ahab was a large one, but from the singing point of view it was small. His clothes were so magnificent that anyone would look wonderful with them. He generally played parts of a virile and dramatic character...

A CENTRAL FIGURE

In answer to further questions Captain Reavely agreed that in a spectacular representation Ahab was bound to be a central figure. He was wearing a magnificent head-dress. He (the witness) knew the expression "All dressed up and nowhere to go," Ahab was all dressed up...

The plaintiff said that he was on the stage nearly an hour after singing the line, "Art thou Ellijah? Art thou he that troubleth Israel?" and he had to act during the whole of that time.

Sir William Jowitt. - There was severe comment by Ellijah on Ahab, and all Ahab could do was to listen in silence to what Ellijah had to say? - All the more reason for dramatic art.

It is always going to be realistic it would be natural for Ahab to say something when Ellijah told him off? - I don't think I can agree with that, Ellijah was ejected, and this saved the King from lowering his royal dignity.

Captain Reavely said that he was not aware of the distinction between "physical" and "physical" appearance. He agreed that Ahab could only make gestures of annoyance, but he did not think that they were impotent. He could influence Queen Jezebel and the crowd by signs. Anyone reading the article in *The Times* would consider him wholly inadequate both physically and histrionically.

His Lordship. - Do you happen to know whether any of the angels (referred to in the article) have brought a libel action? - Not so far as I know, my Lord (Laughter).

At the close of the case for the plaintiff Sir William Jowitt asked his Lordship to say that there was no case to go to the jury.

His Lordship. - I confess I cannot see anything. (To the jury) - Can you?

The jury intimated that they did not want to hear any more, and they returned a verdict for the defendants.

Judgement was entered accordingly, with costs.

Measure for measure

From Mr Leslie Millgate

Sir, In describing the slack way the British have adopted immigration I feel sure Mrs Eileen Cole (November 6) really meant to say U.S. hearted. Yours faithfully, LESLIE MILLGATE, 47 Cambridge Road, Great Stelford, Cambridge.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 10: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this morning visited Daniel Twiss, plc Star Brewery, Blackburn, to mark the completion of the modernization of the Brewery.
Having been received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Lancashire (Mr Simon Townley), Her Royal Highness toured the Brewery, escorted by the Chairman (Mr J Yerburch) and afterwards was entertained at luncheon.
The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this afternoon visited the offices of the Lancashire Evening Telegraph in Blackburn and was received by the Managing Director, North Western Newspaper Co Ltd (Mr J T Cameron).
Her Royal Highness subsequently visited Blackburn Borough Council's new Leisure Pool, the Waves Water Fun Centre, and was received by the Mayor of Blackburn (Councillor M Madigan) and the Director of Community and Leisure Services (Mr E Runswick).
The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, attended by the Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke and Mrs Charles Ritchie, travelling in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight. **KENSINGTON PALACE**
November 10: The Prince and

Lord Mayor's Banquet

The Lord Mayor, Sir David Rowe-Ham, accompanied by Lady Rowe-Ham, the Sheriffs and their ladies, entertained the outgoing Lord Mayor, Sir Allan Davis, and Lady Davis, at a banquet in Guildhall last night.
The Lord Mayor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Prime Minister and Sir Allan Davis were the speakers. Others present included:
Mr Denis Thatcher, Mrs Prince the Lord Mayor, Sir Nigel Cecil, 61; Lord Dainton, 72; Sir Arthur Davies, 73; Mr Ron Greenwood, 65; Mr Marshal Sir Donald Hall, 56; Sir Martin Jacobson, 57; Mr Roy Jenkins MP, 66; Sir Harold Kent, 59; Mr Rodney Marsh, 39; Professor G A G Mitchell, 80; Sir Walter Oakeshott, 83; Dr Indraprasth Patel, 62; Sir Peter Shepherd, 73; General Sir Walter Walker, 74; Lord Wolfson, 59.
Maharaja Ball
The Maharaja Ball, in aid of Help the Aged, will take place at the Hurlingham Club, London, SW6, on Thursday, November 20, 1986. Entertainers who are to perform in celebration of the charity's silver jubilee include: The Great Indian Dancers, Manish Chandani, Allan Baileys and the New Collection, the Caledonian Highlanders, Ian MacLennan's Society Jazz Band and Jopilly's discotheque. An Indian dinner has been arranged by the Bombay Palace Group. Tickets, at £25, are available from: The Maharaja Ball Office, Flat 8, 34 Emperor's Gate, London, SW7 4JA. Telephone: 01 373 9123.
A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Sir Stanley Clayton will be held at noon on Friday, November 21, in the Chapel at King's College Hospital, London, SE5.



Dr John Tanner, director of the RAF Museum, Hendon, helping to unload a Polish Air Force Mikoyan Gurevich MIG-15 (LIM-2) yesterday, thought to be the first Warsaw Pact aircraft to go on permanent display in Britain (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Sale room

Miniatures fetch £568,755

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Sir Charles Clore, the financier whose name is associated with the takeover bid, decided to move into portrait miniatures in 1956, and bought half the superb David-Weill collection. Sothebys offered 204 of them yesterday for his estate, and secured £568,755 with 3 per cent left unsold. The other half of the David-Weill collection was bequeathed to the Louvre.
Yesterday's miniatures were mostly French and the bidders were paying a premium for big names, whether sitters or artists — but preferably both. The prices on run-of-the-mill miniatures were something of a disappointment.
A beautiful actress, Jeanne Marguerite Nicole Lavallière, painted three-quarter length in 1812 by Singy secured £22,000 (estimated £8,000-£12,000). Mrs G Rudiger, a Munich dealer, she also paid £20,900 for a miniature of the artist. Sothebys offered 204 of them yesterday for his estate, and secured £568,755 with 3 per cent left unsold. The other half of the David-Weill collection was bequeathed to the Louvre.
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A beautiful actress, Jeanne

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H.J.N. Fitzalan Howard and Miss C.L. von Mallinckrodt. The engagement is announced between David Bruce, elder son of Mr and Mrs B. Ditcham, of Springfield House, Braunston, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs George von Mallinckrodt, Mr C.H. Ross.
The engagement is announced between Christopher, youngest son of the Hon Peter Rous and the late Elizabeth Rous, of Mvurwi, Zimbabwe, and Christiana, daughter of Dr and Mrs Stokes Jerome Smith, of Spargburg, South Carolina.
Mr A.J. B. Brisset and Miss L. Mazumdar. The engagement is announced between Alain, only son of M and Mme Jean-Jacques Brisset, Dr and Mademoiselle Normandy, and Indira, daughter of Mr and Mrs Birendra Nath Mazumdar, of Galimpton, Devon.
Dr A. Fyne and Dr P. Mills. The engagement is announced between Andrew son of Mrs O. Fyne, of Hetherst, Norfolk, and Philippa, daughter of the late Major B.H.S. Mills and Mrs W.A. Mills, of Beech, Alton, Hampshire.
Mr D.B. Ditcham and Miss C.O. Billinghurst. The engagement is announced between David Bruce, elder son of Mr and Mrs B. Ditcham, of Springfield House, Braunston, and Catherine, daughter of Mr and Mrs George von Mallinckrodt, Mr C.H. Ross.
Mr M.T. Gooch and Miss A.L. Jones. The engagement is announced between Mark Triston, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R.A. Gooch, of St Leonards, and Alison Louise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Jones, of Great Lever.
Mr A.C. Draycott and Miss J. Malt. The engagement is announced between Charles, only son of Mr and Mrs L.N. Draycott, of Woodmanocote, Sussex, and Janet, daughter of Mr and Mrs P.H. Malt, of Wirral, Cheshire.
Mr R.H.E. Steele and Miss C.M. Fraser. The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Mr J.O.E. Steele and of Mrs P.M. Steele, of London, and Caroline, daughter of Dr D.A.S. Fraser and of Mrs Diana M. Fraser, of Inverness.
Mr M.G.R. Sealy and Mrs J.M.H. Mayoock. The engagement is announced between Malcolm Sealy, of Winsey, and Jean Mayoock (nee Aldwinckle), of Well Cottage, Warborough, Oxfordshire. The marriage will take place in Killara, Australia.
Dr A.M. Harvey and Miss V.C. Phillips. The marriage took place on Saturday, November 1, at the Holy Trinity Church, Stamford-upon-Avon, of Dr Mark Harvey and Miss Victoria Phillips. The bride was given in marriage by Mr Ken Smedley, Mr Tim Harvey, brother of the bridegroom, was best man.
Mr W.H. Hees and Mrs A.E. Boyes Deitz. The marriage took place on Saturday, November 27, 1986, at the parish church of St W.H. (Bill) Hees, of Liss, Hampshire, and Mrs Antonia Boyes Deitz, of Cambridge.
Mr N.F. Kirkman and Mrs M.M.M. Kerr. The marriage took place at Finner St Paul's Church, Greenock, Renfrewshire, on October 25 of Mr Noel Feraday Kirkman and Mrs Marion M. Kerr.

OBITUARY

SIR GORDON RICHARDS

In racing, the champion of champions



Sir Gordon Richards, perhaps the greatest jockey in the history of racing, and the only one to have been knighted, died yesterday. He was 82.
Just as Fred Archer was outstanding in the second half of the nineteenth century, so Gordon Richards was a supremely dominant, though diminutive, figure on horseback for more than 25 years, until his retirement in 1954. Physically the two men had little in common, since Archer was unusually tall for one of his profession, and always dieting to keep his weight down, whereas Richards had no such problem. Yet they are strictly and uniquely comparable as masters of the turf. The statistics clearly favour Richards, though in fairness it should be said that in Archer's day there were fewer race meetings and fewer horses in training.
Many have tried in vain to analyse the secret of Richards' success, but all have agreed on two points: that he had a style so unorthodox and individual that none could profitably follow him, and that he managed to transmit to every horse he rode, classic colt or filly or selling-plater, his own determination that together they must be first past the post.
Gordon Richards was born on May 5, 1904, at Oakengates, Shropshire - where, in 1958, he was honoured when a public subscription was launched and, from the proceeds, an animal clinic established, which he opened.
He was one of twelve children. His father, who had been a miner, kept ponies for government cars and riding, and these were Richards' first mounts. He began work at the age of 14 in a warehouse dealing in pit stores. He intended to go down the pit like his father but two girls who worked in the warehouse office saw an advertisement for a stable apprentice with Martin Hartigton and said to Richards: "Why don't you apply?" In fact, as he said later, they wrote his letter of application. He got the job. This was in 1919. He won his first race in 1921.
Richards broke all the records that Archer set up in his run as champion jockey from 1874 to 1886. Between 1925 and 1953 he was champion 26 times, and in 1933 he beat Archer's record of 259

horse was Reform, an undersized yearling with crooked forelegs whom no one wanted. He was the winner of 11 races, including the 1957 Champion Stakes. Richards's training of this colt was a masterpiece of patience, skill and sympathy.
In 1970 he gave up training to manage the horses of Lady Beaverbrook and Sir Michael Sobell. But it is, of course, as a jockey that he will always be remembered.
Richards broke many of the accepted rules and standards of race riding. He rode rather upright in a driving finish, never appearing to have a hold on his horse's head; invariably the reins were loose on his neck. Yet the vice-like grip of his knees, and the tremendous pressure he could exert, prevented his mounts from wandering.
In other respects his methods were entirely sound, and his tactics in a race could rarely be criticized. He would never take a chance of trying to get through a rail if he thought that the possibility that he might be cut off, and that he never hesitated to sacrifice a length or two by pulling to the outside if he thought he would get a clearer run.
Away from racing his hobbies were shooting, curling, golf and pigeon-fancying. He was not much of a party-goer, but excellent company to those he knew well. Like most people whose talents get them to the top in any department of life, he was fairly egotistical. But his stories, though usually self-centred, were fun to listen to, and he was a very good after-dinner speaker.
In a profession not specially noted for its honesty, he had the reputation of being exceptionally straight. But he devotedly received certain advantages from being the acknowledged leader. Starters tended to ask, "Are you sure, Gordon?" before starting a race. On one occasion Harry Wragg shouted: "Yes, sir" when Richards himself was hot ready, but normally he had the benefit.
It was said of him that he was such a strong finisher that he won on every horse that should have won, and on many that should not. No wonder he was hard to beat.
His wife, Margery, died in 1982, and since then he had been very lonely. Their two sons survive him.

DR IAN BUSH

Dr Ian Bush, an outstanding scientist in the field of sex steroids, died in New Hampshire on November 1. He was 58.
In 1964 he and many of his research team caused a furor and were credited with starting the "brain drain" when they resigned from Birmingham University and emigrated to the United States, claiming that a shortage of funds was making their work impossible.
Ian Enoch Bush was born on May 23, 1928, and educated at Bryanston School and Pembroke College, Cambridge. From 1949 to 1952 he was a medical research scholar at the Physiology Laboratory, Cambridge, and the National Institute for Medical Research. The next three years he spent at St Mary's Hospital, London, as a medical student, at the same time paying visits to several hospitals in America.
He then worked on the external staff of the Medical Research Council before moving to Birmingham University in 1960 as Professor of Physiology at the early age of 32.
There he worked on the steroid hormones secreted by the adrenal and sex glands, the chemical processes involved in the workings of the brain, and their relationship with mental illness.
But he became increasingly embittered with what he called "the administrative ivory tower". His frustrations came to a head in 1964 when he announced his retirement from the post, and his plans to emigrate to the United States, to join the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology, Massachusetts.
He was leaving, he said, because he was forced to teach students with obsolete equipment; was hampered by paper work; was so short of secretaries that he had to type his own letters; and was waging a continual battle for funds.
Bush's emigration started a "brain drain" controversy, further enflamed when many of his colleagues decided to follow him to America to continue their research. He made it clear, however, that the financial support from the Medical Research Council had been generous.
Steroids were Bush's first interest, and the work he did at Birmingham had perfected in Massachusetts. As a visiting professor he had already used his own techniques of chemical analysis to identify and measure unknown compounds in the blood and urine of patients at several Massachusetts mental hospitals.
He refined and improved these methods so that analyses could be performed and the results read by automation. It was designed so that a small technical staff working with the tightest of budgets in an any laboratory could screen the body fluids of large numbers of schizophrenics, depressives and neurotics for

CAPTAIN BASIL JONES

Captain Basil Jones, DSO, DSC, who died on November 5 at the age of 85, was a distinguished wartime destroyer commander whose flotilla routed German warships which were attempting to disrupt the Normandy invasion fleet, in a spirited night action.
He was born on August 5, 1901, and joined the Navy as a cadet at Osborne in 1915. He served as a midshipman in the Grand Fleet before the First World War was over, and afterwards qualified as a gunner at Whale Island. Among his interwar postings was one in 1933 to HMS Achilles - then a brand-new cruiser, later of Battle of the River Plate fame.
During the Second World War he saw as much action as any man, in five years spent very largely afloat. He won a DSC in 1939 for successfully attacking U-boats with his destroyer *Ivanhoe* in the Western Approaches. In 1943 he won the first of his two DSOs in command of the destroyer *Pakenham* which, with its sister ship *Paladin*, sank two Italian destroyers in night battles near Malta.
On the evening of D-Day Jones was leading the 10th Destroyer Flotilla, of British, Canadian and Polish ships, when Coastal Command's air patrols sighted three German destroyers off St Nazaire. These were duly strafed, and put into Brest for repairs. But on the 6th they were at sea again, reinforced by a fourth. Jones, in the destroyer *Tartar*, steamed his force westwards to meet them, and picked them up on radar in the small hours of June 9. Splitting his flotilla into two divisions, he made straight at the enemy, and *Tartar* opened fire at 5,000 yards.
Evading torpedoes, his ships pressed in to almost point blank range, disorganizing the Germans and compelling them to scatter. Two escaped to the south and gained the safety of Brest, but *Tartar*, giving chase to the north, hit and stopped one of the German flotilla leader, *ZH32*, sustaining damage which slowed her down.
Jones, however, soon had this brought under control and renewed the search for the enemy, in company with *Achant*. Together they found and finished off *ZH1*, while the Canadian destroyers of Jones's force cut off the German leader. Caught in the

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM

BIRTHS

ISLAND - On November 7th 1986 at the Westminster Hospital, in Stora (the Baker) and Guy, a son, Max Gordon...

DEATHS

ANTONIO - On November 7th 1986, very suddenly, David Grace Antonio, formerly of Scotland, dearly loved husband of...

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Science report: Early test hook on schistosomiasis. By John Newell. Schistosomiasis is sometimes referred to as the scourge of the tropics...

Arthritis: Children get it too! Together we can beat it. We find over one third of all research into the prevention and cure of cancer in the UK.

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To Place Your Classified Advertisement. Please telephone the appropriate number listed below between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday to Friday...

Labour proposes levy for training

By Richard Evans Political Correspondent

All British firms would be ordered to pay a new levy by a future Labour government to help finance a radical training programme for the nation's workforce...

Mr John Prescott, Shadow Secretary of State for Employment, said the training "tax" should be a minimum of 1 per cent of a company's turnover...

As he gave details of the levy plan during the Knowsley North by-election, he made it clear small businesses would not be exempt and indicated loss-making firms would have to pay...

Mr Prescott said Britain had the worst-trained labour force of any developed country and business was largely responsible. British companies spent 0.1 per cent of their turnover - £1 billion - on training compared to £25 billion spent by our competitors...

"We will have to levy industry because industry has shown itself totally unable to see training as an investment, and sees it totally as a cost", Mr Prescott said.

"So industry must take note. It has totally failed the community in training its people. A Labour government will reverse that trend and begin to train our people and get them back to work..."

With 72 hours left before voters go to the polls in the Merseyside constituency, both Labour and Liberals yesterday produced canvassing returns which confirmed that Mr George Howarth, the Labour candidate, retains a significant lead.

The Labour figures, based on contact with two-thirds of the voters, give Mr Howarth 65.6 per cent of the committed votes, the Liberals 7.6 per cent and the Tories 2.8 per cent. Voters still to make up their mind constitute 18 per cent and support for the other candidates is put at 5 per cent.

According to the Liberals, their candidate Miss Rosemary Cooper is narrowing the gap between herself and Mr Howarth.

1983 election result: R. Kilroy-Glik (L), 24,949; A. Birch (C), 7,758; B. McColgan (SDP/All), 5,715; J. Simons (WRP), 246.

Knight of the turf Sir Gordon Richards dies



Sir Gordon Richards at the finish of the Derby at Epsom on June 6 1953 riding to victory on Sir Victor Sassoon's Pizaro and being congratulated by the Queen afterwards.

Continued from page 1 his era. He had the strongest will to win and the best balance of any jockey in my time.

Sir Gordon was a great favourite of the Royal Family and rode many of their horses.

As one of the most glittering superstars in the gilded history of the turf, historians may argue whether the title of the greatest jockey of all time belongs to Sir Gordon, to Fred Archer, who preceded him and tragically committed suicide 100 years ago last Saturday, or to Lester Piggott, who retired last year and who has just ended a successful first season as a trainer.

But probably no one, not even Mr Piggott, has been so idolized by the racing public. At the height of his powers he exercised such a hold on the popular imagination that there were occasional punters on Derby Day and the like who would automatically

back whatever horse he was riding in the belief that he was unbeatable.

Of course he was not, and indeed he had to wait until the twilight of his career to achieve his most elusive success, victory in the Derby itself on Pizaro in 1953, an achievement crowned by a knighthood in the Coronation Honours List. To this day he remains the only jockey ever to have been so honoured.

Between 1925 and 1953 Sir Gordon was champion jockey no fewer than 26 times, and in 1947 he established a record, which looks likely to stand for all time, of 269 winners in a single season, Pat Eddery, this year's champion jockey, at the end of an outstandingly successful season, failed to reach his target of 200 winners.

His upright, unorthodox style, with a long, loose rein, raised a few eyebrows among purists, but they could hardly quarrel with the astonishing

Classic winners

- Derby: Pinza (1953)
Rose of England (1930)
Sun Chariot (1942)
St. Leger: Singapore (1930)
Chulmleigh (1937)
Turkhan (1940)
Sun Chariot (1942)
Tehran (1944)
2,000 Guineas: Pasch (1938)
Big Game (1942)
Tudor Minstrel (1947)
1,000 Guineas: Sun Chariot (1942)
Queenport (1948)
Belle Of All (1951)

results. He was a supreme tactician, always giving his horse room to run, even when that meant switching to the outside rather than, as is often

the current fashion, seeking to find a gap on the rails.

His strength in a finish was such that it was said that he never lost a race which he should have won. He was also regarded as an exceptionally straight and honest sportsman, something that endeared him still more to his admirers.

Altogether he won 14 Classic races and always said that the greatest horse he rode was the legendary filly, Sun Chariot, on which he won the 1,000 Guineas, the Oaks and the St Leger.

After his retirement he took up training, but this failed to bring him the success he had known as a rider and in 1970 he became racing manager for Lady Beaverbrook and Sir Michael Sobell.

Mr John Hills, the owner and breeder who knew Sir Gordon well, said yesterday that his path had been tougher than that of any champion who followed him.



Sir Gordon Richards receiving his knighthood from Buckingham Palace in 1953 with his wife.

Indian forces in Punjab build-up

From Michael Hamlyn Delhi

Winter manoeuvres by the Indian Army close to the frontier with Pakistan caused considerable speculation yesterday that some new development was underway in the troubled border state of Punjab.

Government sources were anxious to play down the importance of the exercises. "Winter is the best time for exercises. Every country does it," one official said last night.

But people in Punjab reported unusually large convoys travelling the Grand Trunk Road, and extensive troop movements by train.

The speculation was started when news came that several express, mail and passenger trains going via Haryana, Punjab and Jammu were cancelled and the journeys of others curtailed because of what were described as "unavoidable operational requirements."

Northern railways said that the rescheduling would be in force until further notice.

The railways had earlier cancelled a number of branch line trains in Punjab itself, citing the present situation in the state, and a possibly serious accident was averted when employees noticed in time that a number of fish-plates had been tampered with near a village in Gurdaspur district.

The state government has asked the senior government officials in the districts to be meticulous in checking the rail lines in their areas.

Manoeuvres along the border would not be unusual, particularly as the cooler weather sets in, although it is reported that so many trains have not been cancelled in one swoop since Operation Bluestar, when the Army first took control of Punjab and then seized the Golden Temple of Amritsar.

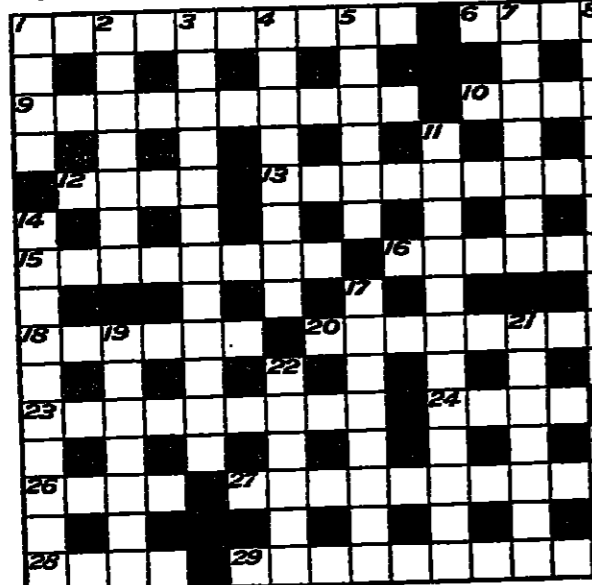
The only active area of the frontier with Pakistan recently has been in the far north of the country around the Siachen glacier in disputed Kashmir. But the weather in this bleak mountain region is already decidedly too cold for any kind of campaigning.

Patrols stepped up: A Border Security Force spokesman in Delhi said the force, which has responsibility for the border, had been asked to step up patrols within 500 metres of the border (AFP reports).

Today's events

Royal engagements: The Queen holds an investiture at Buckingham Palace... Princess Anne attends the council meeting of the National Council for Voluntary Youth Services...

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,200



- ACROSS: 1 A woman holding anti-nuclear assembly is unyielding (10)... 12 I fled the yard (4)... 13 Cheat many a character with meaningless talk (9)...

Concise Crossword page 18

TV top ten

- National top ten television programmes in the week ending November 7: 1 EastEnders (Thurs/Sat) 22.15m... 10 No Place Like Home 10.55m

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various countries like Australia, Canada, Denmark, etc.

Weather forecast

A depression will move northeastwards across England and Wales. 6 am to midnight: London, SE, central S, E, central N... High Tides table...

Anniversaries

Births: Paul Signac, painter, pioneer of Pontillism, Paris, 1863; Edmund Villard, painter, Cizeaux, France, 1866...

Music competition

Applications for the 1987 Royal Over-Seas League Music Competition should be received by January 1987. Auditions will be held in London, Glasgow and Manchester.

Roads

Wales and West: M4: Repairs on eastbound carriageway between junctions 16 and 17 with contraflows...

MUSIC

Organ recital by Malcolm Archer, Bristol Cathedral, Bristol, 1.15. Concert by the Scottish National Orchestra with Young Uck Kim (violin), Music Hall, Aberdeen, 7.30.

Talks

Chemistry and Society, by Robert Malpas: Curtis Auditorium, School of Physics, Newcastle University, 5.30.

General

Christmas arts and crafts: Frome Museum Gallery, 1 North Parade, Frome, Somerset, 10 to 4. Closed Thur & Sun.

Portfolio Gold advertisement with logo and text: Portfolio - how to invest your money. Money Shareway record your daily portfolio total.

Healthy eating advertisement with text: A new report Talking about healthy eating has just been issued by the Food Policy Research Unit of Bradford University.

Table of London Britain weather forecasts, including Sun, Moon, Wind, Cloud, and temperature data for various locations.

Large financial and business section containing various data tables, news snippets, and advertisements.